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83. The method of claim 82, wherein the nucleic acid has a phosphodiester backbone.

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84. The method of claim 82, wherein the nucleic acid has a chimeric phosphodiester-phosphorothioate backbone.

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85. The method of claim 82, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid has a sequence including at least the following nucleotides GGGGTCAACGTTGAGGGGGG (SEQ ID No. ____).

86. A method for desensitizing a subject against the occurrence of an allergic reaction in response to contact with an allergen, comprising administering to a subject an effective amount for desensitizing the subject against the occurrence of an allergic reaction of an immunostimulatory nucleic acid, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid, has a sequence selected from the group of sequences including at least the following nucleotides TCCATGGCGGTCCTGATGCT (SEQ ID No. ____), TCCATGTCGGTCCTGATGCT (SEQ ID No. ____), and GGGGTCAACGTTGAGGGGGG (SEQ ID No. ____).

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87. The method of claim 86, wherein the nucleic acid has a phosphodiester backbone.

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88. The method of claim 86, wherein the nucleic acid has a chimeric phosphodiester-phosphorothioate backbone.

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89. The method of claim 86, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid has a sequence including at least the following nucleotides GGGGTCAACGTTGAGGGGGG (SEQ ID No. ____).

REMARKS

Claims 2-41 are canceled herewith and new claims 42-89 are added. Applicants respectfully request that the claims be examined. An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Applicants have also amended the specification to insert the Sequence ID Numbers and to make each of the amendments set forth in the preliminary amendment filed in US Serial No. 08/960,774, and to add the listing of related cases. Additionally Sequence ID No. 12, oligonucleotide 1585 as it appears in the specification on page 21, line 33 and in Table 9 on page 36 was amended to correct typographical errors. The correct sequence was presented in the claims of parent application 08/960,774. The error was a typographical error. No new matter has been added to the disclosure.

Respectfully submitted,

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